

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

The legal position

1. At Perran-ar-worthal School, in accordance with The 1988 Education Reform Act, collective worship is on a daily basis.
2. An act of worship must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character, i.e. reflect the broad traditions of Christian belief and moral values.
3. It should be appropriate to the family background of the pupils and their ages and attitudes.
4. It must not exclude or alienate pupils from non-Christian families, or pupils of no faith, nor should it be denominational or sectarian.
5. Parents do have the right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship.
6. All staff are encouraged to join our acts of Collective Worship when this is practical and appropriate, but retain the right to withdraw.
7. Further guidance: see Circular 1/94

Aims

Educational

8. To encourage the celebration of values and worth of the school community and all who belong to it
9. To foster co-operation and strong relationships between individual schools, the local community and the global community that they serve.

Spiritual

10. To give the opportunity for adults and children to come together to reflect and celebrate.
11. To help children develop a respect for and sensitivity to the beliefs and values of others.
12. To equip young people to understand more about themselves and the world around them.
13. To provide an opportunity for children to participate in sharing their thoughts and feelings.

The school's approach to collective worship

14. Our pupils attend a daily act of worship at 1.50pm for 10 minutes.

15. A member of staff or another visiting adult leads the assembly each day.
16. When possible, children are invited to take part in assembly.
17. On Friday each week there is a Celebration Assembly.
18. Themes for Collective Worship are based on a different virtue each week which include British Values and where possible, linked to topical events throughout the year and seasonal festivities.

Monitoring and assessment

19. This policy will be reviewed annually.

Appendix

Key Points from Circular 1/94 – Collective Worship

1. AIMS

- To provide pupils with the opportunity to worship God.
- To consider spiritual and moral issues
- To involve pupils whether actively or passively
- To develop community ethos and shared values
- To reinforce positive attitudes

2. Worship is to “reflect something special or separate from ordinary school activities” and “it should be concerned with reverence or veneration, paid to a divine being or power” and “must contain some elements which relate specifically to the traditions of Christian belief and which accord special status to Jesus Christ”.

3. Collective Worship and Assembly are distinct activities.

4. “Taking part” means more than “passive attendance”. Pupils should respond.

5. It is suggested that the headteacher keeps records/plans for collective worship in case of queries.